

REMARKS

Claims 2-22 are pending in the application. Claim 1 was canceled in this response. Claims 2, 5, 14, 15, 19 and 22 were amended to place them into independent form. Claims 3, 4, 10, 16, 20 and 21 were amended to depend from claim 2. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

For at least the reasons set forth below, withdrawal of all outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4, 8-13, 16-18, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,725,144 (Nelson *et al.*, hereinafter "Nelson"). As indicated above, claim 1 was canceled in this response. Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 is moot. The Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding rejections.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 14, 15, 19 and 22 are objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As indicated above, claims 2, 5, 14, 15, 19 and 22 were placed into independent and thus allowable form. Claims 3, 4, 10, 16, 20 and 21 were amended to depend from allowable claim 2. Claims 8, 9, 11-13, 17 and 18 now depend from allowable claim 2. Claims 6 and 7 depend from allowable claim 5.

All dependent claims are believed to be patentable because they depend from allowable independent base claims and recite additional patentable elements. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-22 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Insofar as the Examiner's rejections were fully addressed, the present application is in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowability of all pending claims is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Feb. 14, 2007

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